

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Belmont Conservation Commission**  
**December 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes**  
**Virtual Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**

**RECEIVED**  
**TOWN CLERK**  
**BELMONT, MA**

DATE: March 8, 2022  
TIME: 3:17 PM

**Attendees:**

Members: Jim Roth (Chairman); Jeff North (Vice Chairman); Margaret Velie; Dan Nolan; Prassede Vella

Others: Michael Dijkstra; David Cowell; Carolyn Bishop

**Call to Order:**

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Jim Roth.

**Review of Minutes:** The Commission reviewed the minutes of the October 6, 2021 meeting. Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

**VOTED** to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2021 meeting

The motion was unanimous to approve the minutes.

**Updates:**

Mary Trudeau updated the Commission on several topics. She noted that the DPW had substantially completed the clearing of wood piles, and created room for the parking of school buses at the former incinerator site on Concord Avenue. She noted that the parking area was permeable, and approximately 200 feet in length. Mary reported that the chipping of the logs and stumps has not begun, but that the DPW will create berms between the parking areas and the wetlands with the processed materials.

Ms Trudeau reported the findings of a site visit at 210 Clifton Street, noting that she had agreed with the wetlands delineation (done by LEC) and that the proposed addition to the existing home at 210 Clifton Street is more than 100 feet from the flagged wetland edge, both at the rear and front of the house. She noted that she had signed a building permit application based on the review of wetlands.

Ms Trudeau also reported that a preconstruction site visit had been done at 169 Leonard Street, in preparation for the construction of the approved two car garage. The erosion controls have been installed, as has a stabilized site entrance onto Leonard Street.

The Commission briefly discussed the condition of the Bank of Clay Pit Pond, noting that existing degradation and instability of the Bank may accelerate in the future. Mary Trudeau reported that the Town is collecting information for use in requesting “resiliency” grant monies, and that bank stabilization at Clay Pit Pond has been included in the preliminary discussions of the committee. She also noted that sediment accumulations within Clay Pit Pond may be considered, as they result in displacement of available flood storage.

The Commission also discussed the failed attempt of a local man to erect a wooden shed on the Banks of Clay Pit Pond. Mary Trudeau reported that the DPW is considering the appropriateness of a storage shed at Clay Pit Pond, and may choose to discuss options with the Conservation Commission in the upcoming winter months. The Commission had little interest in the construction of a shed at Clay Pit Pond, noting the sensitive nature of the pond environment.

### **Public Meeting for Notice of Intent Application: 85 Juniper Road (106-150)**

David Cowell, representing Michael Djikstra (owner of 85 Juniper Road property) presented an “after the fact” filing of a Notice of Intent for the construction of a single family home on a previously developed lot. Mr. Cowell noted that the work began during the pandemic, and through a variety of missteps, a Notice of Intent was never filed for work occurring within one hundred feet of wetlands. Mr. Cowell noted that the dwelling is substantially complete, and that the bulk of the landscaping has also been completed. Outstanding work includes renovations of the existing patio and landscaping within jurisdictional areas to the rear of the new home.

Mr. Cowell reported that the stormwater management system was approved by the Belmont Engineering Department as part of the issuance of a building permit, and that no work had occurred within 25 feet of the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands on the site. The Commission reviewed the connectivity of this wetlands system to drainage patterns on this lot, as well as on adjacent properties.

Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

**VOTED** to approve the issuance of an Order of Conditions for the construction of a single family dwelling, with appurtenant landscaping and storm water management.

Mary Trudeau agreed to tailor the basic Order of Conditions to reflect the post construction issuance of the Order of Conditions.

### **Additional Discussions:**

Jeff North reported on various Invasive Plant Species control topics, including a state sponsored legislative bill (House 999 and Senate 563). Jeff urged members to support the passage of the bills through letter writing or phone calls to state representatives.

The Commission discussed the benefits of rat trapping versus the use of poison, noting that birds are often collateral damage in poison applications.

The Commission reviewed the timing of the 2021 mow at Rock Meadow, noting that the mid October mowing had preserved the seed heads of Milkweed in the meadow, and that there had been no adverse comments from meadow users on the delayed mow.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

**VOTED** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:30 pm